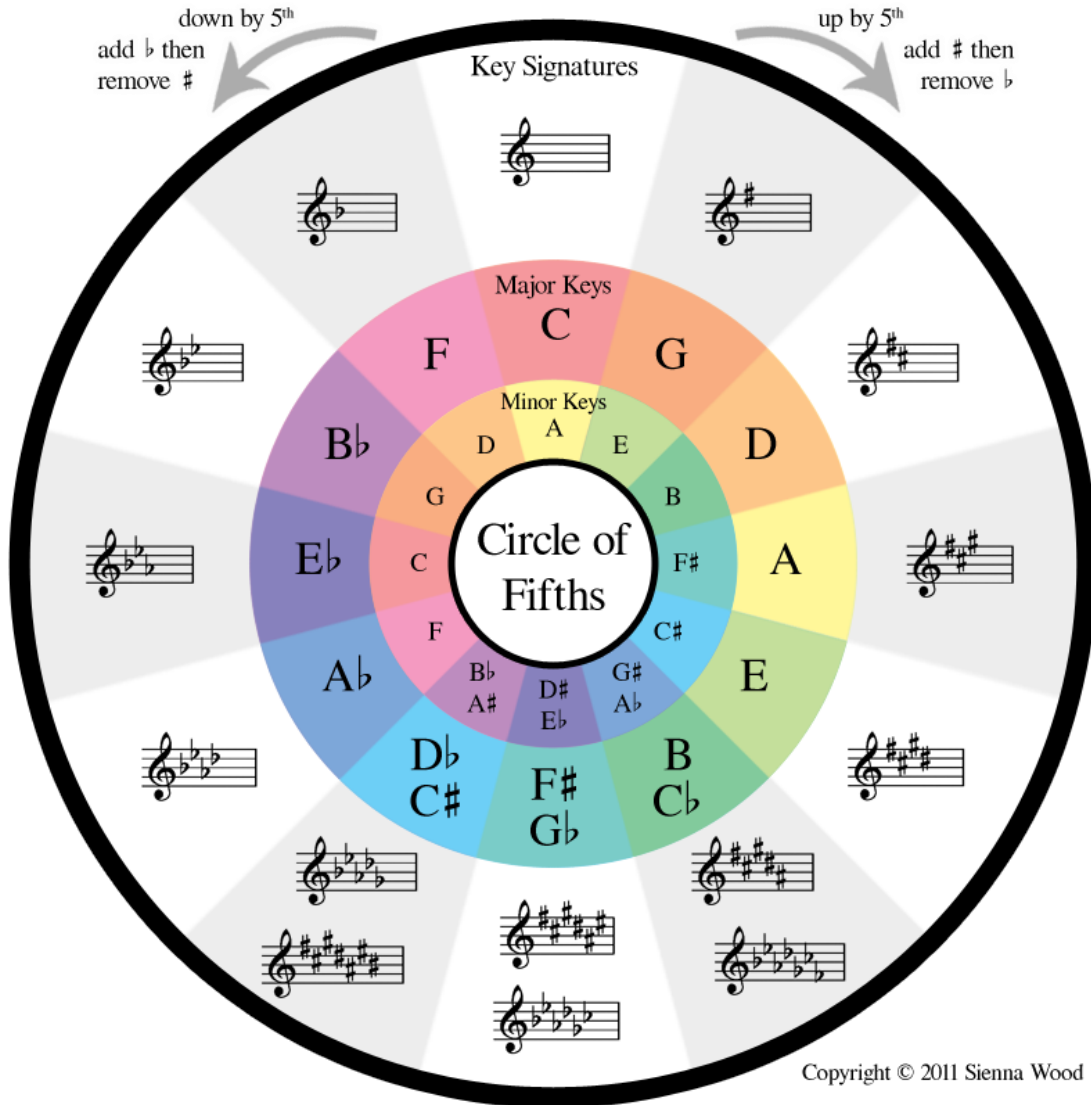
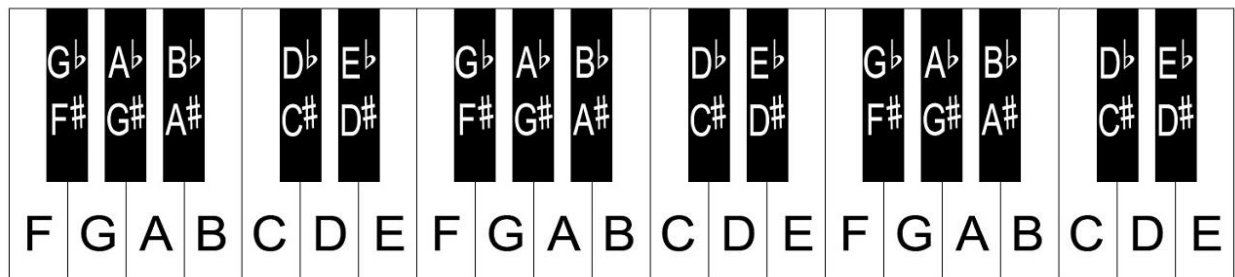


# The Circle of Fifths -- Finding parallel Major/minor keys and understanding key signatures

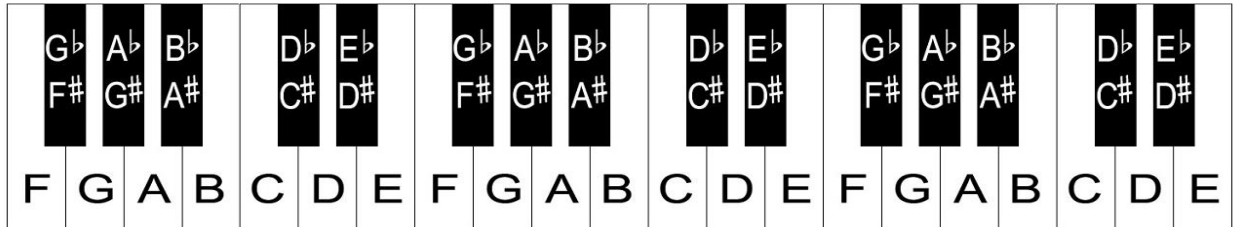


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Including the starting note name (ex. C), go DOWN a perfect 5<sup>th</sup> (C-B-A-G-F) by staying in that note's key signature (ex. no sharps or flats) to find the next FLAT key (ex. F), or go UP a perfect 5<sup>th</sup> to find the next SHARP key. (ex. G) Having a keyboard to visualize or fingering through the notes on your instrument is a good idea to get started. Always keep the key signature in mind before you start playing!



# The Circle of Fifths -- Finding parallel Major/minor keys and understanding key signatures



In this study exercise, think through the names of the keys in order of the circle of fifths, starting on C. (up a fifth to find the next sharp key, down a fifth to find the next flat key)

Find the parallel minor by going DOWN 3 half steps from the Major key name.

Find the parallel Major by going UP 3 half steps from the minor key name.

The order of flats and sharps stays in order of the circle of fifths. The flats go down fifths starting on B-flat, while the sharps go up fifths starting on F#. If you know your key names in order, this will be exactly the same.

FLATS			SHARPS		
Key Name	Parallel minor	Flat notes	Key Name	Parallel Major	Sharp notes
C		NONE	C		NONE
F					

Write the order of accidentals as you might see them at the beginning of a piece of music.

**Flats**

**Sharps**